



The Colony Public Library is a KultureCity® Certified Sensory Inclusive™ Organization

The Colony, Texas

September 19, 2023

KultureCity® has partnered with The Colony Public Library to become a Sensory Inclusive™ Certified Venue. This new initiative will promote an accommodating and positive experience for all clients with sensory processing needs, no matter their age or ability.

The certification process ensures that the staff and volunteers of The Colony Public Library (TCPL) are trained by leading medical professionals on how to recognize guests with sensory needs and how to handle a sensory overload situation. KultureCity® Sensory Bags, equipped with noise-canceling headphones (provided by Puro Sound Labs), fidget tools, verbal cue cards, and a KCVIP lanyard, will be available to all customers of the library who may feel overwhelmed. Lap pads are also available.

Sensory sensitivities or challenges with sensory regulation are often experienced by individuals with autism, dementia, PTSD, and other similar conditions. One of the major barriers for these individuals is sensitivity to over-stimulation and noise, which can be a factor when visiting the library or attending programs. With its new certification, TCPL is now better prepared to assist guests with sensory sensitivities in having the most comfortable and accommodating experience possible.

Prior to their visit, families and individuals can download the free KultureCity® App where one can view what sensory features are available and where they can access them, including how to get a KultureCity® Sensory Bag. The app also includes TCPL's Social Story, which will provide a customized visual preview of what to expect while visiting the library.

Visit TCPL's KultureCity® site: <https://venue.kulturecity.org/venues/the-colony-public-library>

"Our communities shape our lives and to know that The Colony Public Library is willing to go the extra mile to ensure that everyone, no matter their ability, is included in community experiences is amazing. We're honored to partner with TCPL to provide a truly inclusive experience for all clients!"

- Uma Srivastava, Executive Director, KultureCity®

KultureCity® is a leading non-profit recognized nationwide for using its resources to revolutionize and effect change in the community for those with sensory needs, not just those with autism. Since the program's inception, KultureCity® has created over 1,000 Sensory Inclusive™ public and private services, organizations, events, and venues in 6 countries; this includes special events such as the NFL Pro-Bowl, NFL Super Bowl, MLB World Series, and MLB All Star Weekend.

KultureCity® has won many awards for its efforts, including the NASCAR Betty Jane France Humanitarian Award in 2017 and the 2018 Clio Sports Silver for social good in partnership with Cleveland Cavaliers/Quicken Loans Arena. The Cleveland Cavaliers 'Quiet Space Sensory Room at Quicken Loans Arena was a finalist for the 2018 Stadium Business Award.

KultureCity® was named one of the World's Most Innovative Companies for 2019 and 2020 by FastCompany and recently won the Industry Partner Award in TheStadiumBusiness Design & Development Awards 2019.